

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important national and international news, including the industrial, legislative and judicial news, and other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

WHOLE NO. 834.

'YELLOW DOG' VETOED BY OHIO'S LAW HEAD

Columbus, Ohio, April 2.—Pending State legislation that is designed to outlaw the "yellow dog" is upheld by Edward C. Turner, attorney general of this State, answering a request by the chairman of the Rules Committee of the Ohio Senate on the constitutionality of the measure.

"As I read it," said Mr. Turner, "the bill is designed to prohibit this State, or any other, from employing a man of both labor and employers, the right of collective bargaining. In my opinion this object is within the police power of the State and, therefore, is a proper subject of legislative action."

"While the right of contract is a part of the individual freedom protected by the Fourteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, nothing in it is protected by the repeated decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States that the right of contract is not absolute and unyielding, but is subject to limits and restraints in the interests of public health, safety, and welfare, and such limitation may be declared in the legislation of the State."

"The welfare of the working man is a part of the public welfare of the State. The welfare of the employers is a part of the welfare of the State. The measure calculated to insure industrial tranquility between employers and workers would come within 'public welfare.'"

"Collective bargaining means a contract between labor on one side and the employers on the other side. While no man can be compelled to work for another against his will, nor can an employer be compelled to employ an undesirable employee, yet collective bargaining will almost inevitably lead to terms and conditions that confer rights upon both sides which may be protected by the courts."

POOR HOUSE CHARGES EXCEED PENSION COST

Springfield, Ill., April 2.—The average cost of maintaining poor houses in this State is less than the pension cost, said Victor A. Olander, secretary-treasurer of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, in a legislative committee to favor the Sufferers from old age pension.

The pension would be \$250 a year for persons 70 years old or who are unable to support themselves, who have lived within the State for 20 years. Temporary relief would be given to persons who are unable to support themselves, but would not incur the cost of the pension.

Secretary Olander showed that the average cost of maintaining inmates in poor houses was \$144 annually. These figures are from official reports and are \$181 more than the proposed old age pension. The Illinois House of Representatives, in which Chicago is located, and where centralization of power is given at \$250.37 per inmate per year.

This is approximately the proposed pension, or somewhat more than interest charges for investments in lands, and the amount of interest in the almshouse firm.

While unfavorable conditions in various downstate poor houses were pointed out that even well kept infirmaries are unsatisfactory because of loss of self-respect on the part of inmates due to the popular opinion of pauperism against such institutions.

DOCTOR SEES PERIL IN STRENUOUS LIFE

New York, April 2.—The strenuous life, with its hurry and worry is fatal to long life, said Dr. J. H. Darlington, former Health Commissioner of this city, at a luncheon of the city, at the Waldorf.

In the early years of our national life, he said, physical labor was essential to the building of the country, and it was with good reason that the present unrestricted struggle to live in wealth and luxury was a physical life that more than counterbalanced economic gains. The rise of heart disease in recent years has probably been due to increasing habits of idleness.

"The body, through the nervous system, is controlled by the secretions of the glands," he said, "and the engine responds to the governor, so the wonderful human mechanism is controlled by these secretions as actuated by the brain and emotions. The mind is that with emotional excitement, such as fear or horror, the secretions of certain glands are increased."

WOOL COUNCIL DISBANDED

Pasadena, N. J., April 2.—The Industrial Council of Pasawic Wool Manufacturers has disbanded.

This action, the organization was notorious for its spying and blacklisting activities and was in this city. The State Legislature against remedial legislation. Textile unionists hoped that with the passing of the council, employers will adopt policies in line with the spirit of the American Federation of Labor.

WHAT IS "POLICE POWER OF STATE?"

If every trade unionist realized the invincible power of public opinion they would be careless in their agitation against social wrongs. These wrongs are righted under what is known as the "police power of the state"—an indefinable thing that comes with the intelligence and necessities of the people.

No court has marked the limits of this power, for the very good reason that it is a development. It is not applied at the whim of any group, but is based on a sound and intelligent public opinion.

The Ohio State Supreme Court (Bloomfield vs. State) has ruled that the police power of the state is "an expression of the popular conception of the necessities of social and economic conditions."

The Missouri State Supreme Court (State vs. Railroad), in discussing this question, said:

"The police power, in its very nature, must be somewhat elastic to meet the changing and shifting conditions brought about by the progress of civilization."

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